UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

memorandum

DATE: OCT 3 1977

REPLY TO ATTN OF: Robert L. Keuch
Special Counsel to the Attorney General

RLK:mal

SUBJECT: House Select Committee on Assassinations - Status Report

TO: The Attorney General

This is to provide you with an overall summary of the proceedings to date involving the Department of Justice compliance with requests made by the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

In general I feel we have been extremely cooperative with the Committee. I would like to note that the FBI has in my judgment been doing an outstanding job in processing the various requests made by the Committee. To date the Bureau has processed for Committee access, approximately 650 sections of their files concerning the Martin Luther King investigation and the John F. Kennedy assassination investigation. In addition to this they are in the process of reviewing approximately 150 sections of field office files which will be made available for Committee review in the very near future.

In addition to my general observation, however, I believe a few individual matters should be brought to your attention:

(1) With my authority the Bureau has made available for the Committee's use a mock-up which had been prepared of the assassination site in Memphis which relates, of course, to the King investigation. We have provided this to the Committee on a "loan" basis.

(2) After consultation with the Office of Legal Counsel it has been determined that the records which had been forwarded to the Criminal Division by the Rockefeller Commission under specific limitations imposed by President Ford, should be transmitted to the Archivist of the United States for permanent storage. This is being accomplished by letters of agreement which will reserve to the Department of Justice the right to access upon your authority or the authority of the Deputy Attorney General. The Committee had requested access to numerous Rockefeller documents and these requests will now be handled in normal course by the Archivist.

cc: Records
RLK

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AG #31

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(REV. 7-76)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-112

[outside scope]

In addition to what I consider these positive results, there is one matter in which your participation may be necessary and I have made this the subject of a separate memorandum previously forwarded. Briefly stated, this is the issue as to whether or not the Committee staff will be permitted access to a random selection of the raw documents in the Bureau's files as a means of checking on the validity of the excision process we are applying.